



Restructuring County Government

Presented on April 4, 2013
at the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center

Review of Current County Governance Structure:
Supervisor Patricia Jursik

Current Milwaukee County Government:

Elected County Executive and
18 Elected County Supervisors



Role of the County Executive



- Chief Executive Officer of County: Oversees departments
- Appoints department directors subject to Board approval
- Prepares budget and submits to Board for hearings, amendments and final approval

Role of the County Board

- Policy maker for County: Sets policy and budgets for departments
- Works through a committee structure



Committee Structure

- Seven standing committees
 1. Transportation, Public Works and Transit
 2. Judiciary, Safety and General Services
 3. Economic and Community Development
 4. Parks, Energy and Environment
 5. Health and Human Needs
 6. Finance, Personnel and Audit
 7. Intergovernmental Relations
- Deliberative work done through committee structure: Public attends and has input at the committee level
- Final resolutions considered at meetings of the full County Board

Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit



Michael Mayo, Sr., Chairman

Committee Members

John F. Weishan, Jr., Vice-Chair

Mark Borkowski

Patricia Jursik

Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.

Jason Haas

David Bowen

Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit

- Construction and maintenance of county highways and bridges
- Airports: General Mitchell International Airport and Timmerman Field
- Public structures: county courthouse, jails, safety building, children's court, senior centers such as Kelly and many other facilities
- Mass transit and the Milwaukee County Transit System, including fares, service routes and capital improvements
- Railroads and public utilities

Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services



Mark Borkowski, Chairman

Committee Members

Willie Johnson, Jr., Vice-Chair

Jim "Luigi" Schmitt

John F. Weishan, Jr.

Gerry Broderick

Vacant

Vacant

Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services

- Legal questions concerning lawsuits or claims by or against the county, claims for workers compensation, personal injuries and property damage
- County Funded State Court Services, Family Court Commissioners, Jury Commission
- Register in Probate, Election Commission, County Clerk, Register of Deeds, Legal Resource Center
- Sheriff, Jail, House of Corrections and programs
- Medical Examiner (Coroner)
- Safety Commission and Emergency Management
- District Attorney
- Child Support Enforcement
- Corporation Counsel

Committee on Economic and Community Development



Patricia Jursik, Chair

Committee Members

David Bowen, Vice-Chair

Michael Mayo, Sr.

Jim "Luigi" Schmitt

Willie Johnson, Jr.

John F. Weishan, Jr.

Steve F. Taylor

Committee on Economic and Community Development

- Administration of federal, state and local housing programs in the county
- Community Development Block Grant program
- Economic development of Milwaukee County
- Disposition of county properties including tax foreclosures
- Research Park and the Airport Business Park

Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment



Gerry Broderick, Chair

Committee Members

Jason Haas, Vice-Chair

Mark Borkowski

Deanna Alexander

Russell W. Stamper II

Vacant

Vacant

Committee on Parks, Energy and Environment

- County parks, parkways and programs including concerts and golf
- Cultural activities including War Memorial, Art Museum, Marcus Center, Zoo, Charles Allis and Villa Terrace
- University Extension programs and community gardens
- Conservation of air, water, energy and all other resources

Committee on Health and Human Needs



Peggy Romo West, Chair

Committee Members

Michael Mayo, Sr., Vice Chair

David Bowen

Russell W. Stamper II

Steve F. Taylor

Vacant

Vacant

Committee on Health and Human Needs

- Health and Human Services
- Mental health including operation of behavioral health hospital
- Emergency Medical Services (paramedics)
- Department on Aging
- Family Care
- Children's Court Center supportive programs
- Disabilities Services Division, the Housing Division and the Office for Persons with Disabilities

Committee on Finance, Personnel and Audit



Willie Johnson, Jr., Co-Chair
David Cullen, Co-Chair

Committee Members

Jason Haas, Vice-Chair

Jim "Luigi" Schmitt

Peggy Romo West

Patricia Jursik

Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.

Deanna Alexander

Russell W. Stamper II



Committee on Finance, Personnel and Audit

- Budget and setting taxation
- Insurance and claims
- Audit reports
- Personnel matters including employee relations, reclassification, compensation and conditions of employment of County staff and officers
- Civil Service Commission

Committee on Intergovernmental Relations



Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., , Chair

Committee Members

Deanna Alexander, Vice-Chair

Gerry Broderick

Marina Dimitrijevic

Peggy Romo West

David Cullen

Steve F. Taylor

Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

- Proposed federal, state and local legislation affecting the county
- Recommendations determining the county's policy on these matters
- Members may appear before Congress, the State Legislature and governing bodies of other municipalities to support County Board policies
- Intergovernmental Cooperation Council



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Bill Summary: Supervisor Patricia Jursik

Point and Counterpoint:
Representative Joseph Sanfelippo
Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb, Sr.



Restructuring 
County Government

Proposed Changes to County Governance

Assembly Bill 85 and
Senate Bill 95



Election Term

Changes supervisory term from four years
to two years

Compensation

Prohibits supervisors from receiving benefits (like health or pension) not authorized/required by law.

Prohibits salary from exceeding the annual per capita income of Milwaukee County, currently \$24,000 (with exceptions for board chair and finance chair).

Prohibits board from increasing its salary beyond the rate of inflation unless ratified in a referendum.

Referendum on Pay

Requires a binding referendum in April 2014 asking whether supervisor pay should be limited to county per capita income (currently about \$24,000).

Prohibits board from scheduling any other referendum question.

Vests Solely County Executive with Certain Authority

Precludes board from day-to-day control over any county department or subunit.

Prohibits board from dealing with departments except to make inquiries or constituent referrals.

Prohibits board from creating county departments or subunits.

Prohibits board from terminating or lowering salary or benefits of any employee working in county executive's office unless change applies county-wide.

Powers of County Executive

Makes binding all deeds, contracts and agreements made on behalf of the county under the direction of the county executive.

No contract is valid unless countersigned by county executive.

Allows county executive to acquire, lease or sell real property subject to board approval.

Powers of County Executive

Exclusively vests county executive with authority to collectively bargain.

Allows county executive to hire and supervise the number of employees believed to be necessary for executive's office.

Powers of County Executive

County executive exclusively shall administer, supervise and direct county departments including lobbying.

Allows county executive to create any department believed necessary for efficient administration subject to board approval.

Powers of County Executive

Allows county executive to introduce proposed ordinances and resolutions for board consideration.

Allows county executive to convene a board meeting with 48 hour notice, allowing executive to specify time and place.

Gives County Executive Exclusive Authority to:

Oversee county child support agency.

Employ attorneys to provide support enforcement.

Oversee operations of work center and relief programs.

Oversee harbor facilities.

Limits County Board Authority

Creates “passive review approval” of contracts with a value between \$100,000 and \$300,000. Such contracts take effect if finance committee does not vote to approve or reject within 14 days after signed by county executive.

If finance committee rejects, it may still take effect if approved by full board.

Contracts over \$300,000 would be subject to board approval.

Limits Board Budget

Limits board's operating budget to no more than 0.4% of total county property tax levy.

Current county levy: \$279,321,196

Current board budget: 2% of levy or \$6,656,441*

Proposed board budget: 0.4% of levy or \$1,117,285

* \$1,115,471 of that amount pays for legacy costs – health and pension of retired employees – so the board's active operating budget is \$5,540,970.

Intergovernmental Agreements

Intergovernmental agreements would require approval by an executive council consisting of each mayor and village president in the county. This would be the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC).

Prohibits county from entering into agreements without ICC approval.

Prohibitions on Board Governance

Eliminates board's authority to:

Appoint a building inspector,
contract for soil conservation work on private lands,
create a mosquito control district,
maintain a baseball team,
plan or participate in a world festival celebration
and other varied activities currently allowed.

Prohibits former employees from collecting retirement if rehired

Delineates conditions under which a former County employee must terminate their annuity if the County re-employs them.

Public Hearings

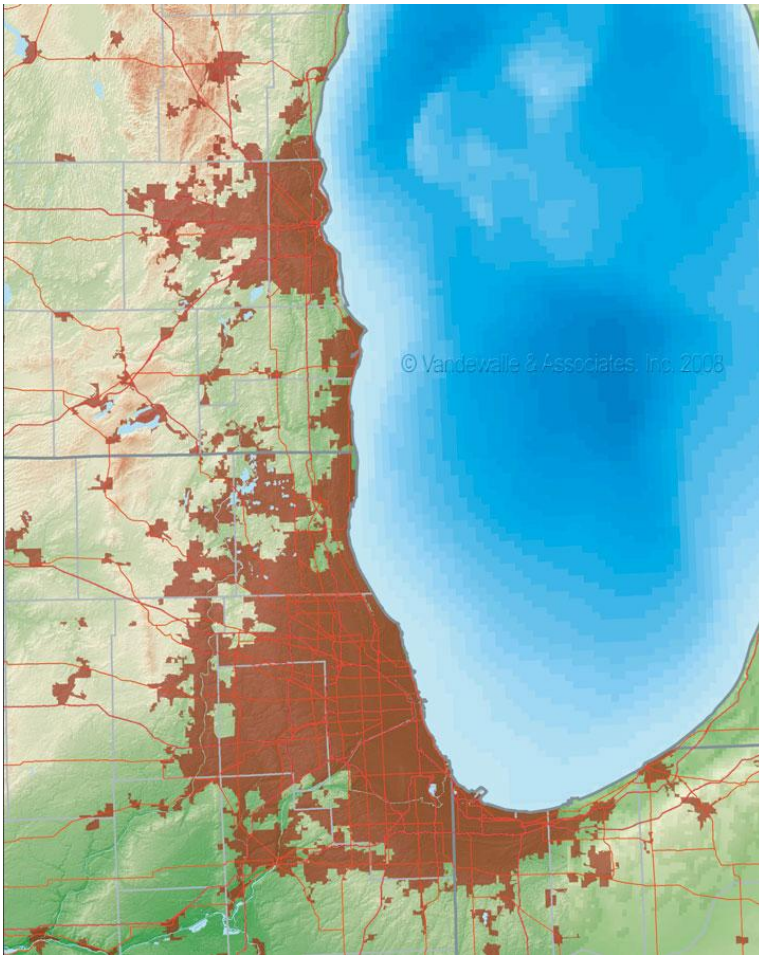
Wednesday, April 10, 2013
10 a.m.

State Capitol 412 East

The Committee on Government Operations
and State Licensing will consider AB 85.

Additional hearings to be announced.

Future Shock? How can government stay current?



The Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee corridor

11.5 million-person corridor

3 states

21 counties

Thousands of government entities

Chicago is the seventh largest economy in the world

The importance of water

Photo courtesy Vandewalle & Associates, Inc.



Future Shock?

2,155 units of
government in the
Milwaukee-Chicago
metroplex

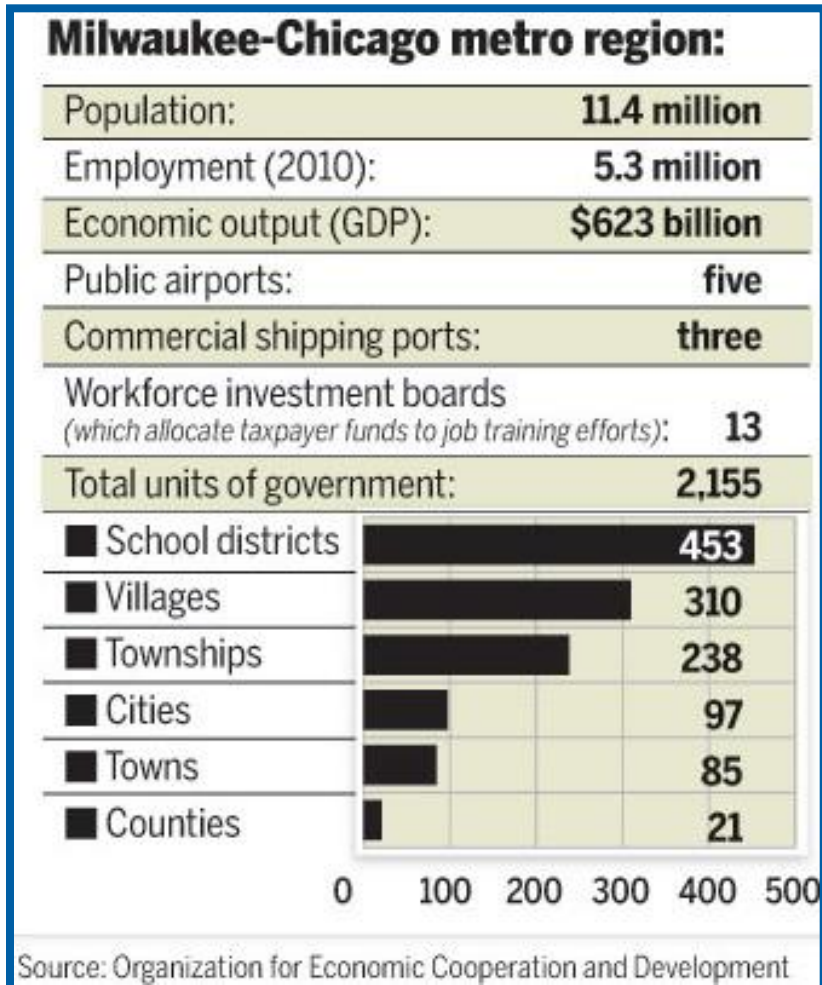


Chart courtesy Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, July 14, 2012